



Berkshire

DIVIDEND STRATEGY

Berkshire Asset Management
46 Public Square, Suite 700
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
570.825.2600

“Casual Friday” Commentary

Casual Friday: Dividend Increases + Cracks In The Nasdaq?– December 17th 2021

A Favorite Holiday Gift? December Dividend Increases:

- Nucor Increases Dividend 23% - December 2, 2021
- Amgen Increases Dividend 10% - December 3, 2021
- Pfizer Increases Dividend 3% - December 10, 2021
- Bristol Myers Increases Dividend 10.2% - December 13, 2021

Nucor, Amgen and Bristol made the dividend increase "nice list" -- Pfizer not so much, but no coal given their large buy back and solid total return year to date. There were no dividend cuts in the portfolio over the same period. (Bloomberg)

Under The Nasdaq “Hood”

The NASDAQ composite index is down about 6% from its high. However, a closer look under the hood reveals much more carnage... 68% of the companies that make up the NASDAQ composite are down 20% or more from their 52 week high. Almost 40% of companies are down 50% or more. It appears some of the froth is coming out of the market which is likely a positive for those who invest with a value tilt. Here’s a list of some of the most popular names:

	% Below 52 Week High
DocuSign	-52%
Avis Budget	-58%
Zoom	-59%
DraftKings	-61%
Zillow	-72%
Robinhood	-77%
Peloton	-78%

(Source: Bloomberg)

North Pole Moving to Russia??? I had no idea...

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/magnetic-north-pole-moving-to-russia/>

It's beginning to look a lot like...inflation?

[How inflation is impacting your Christmas](#)

Thanks have a great weekend.

Gerry

Gerard Mihalick, CFA, Portfolio Manager
gmihalick@berkshiream.com or (570) 825-2600

Jason Reilly, CFP®, VP Distribution
jason@berkshiream.com or (570) 825-2600

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Berkshire Asset Management, LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). Berkshire Asset Management is a fee-based, SEC registered advisory firm serving the portfolio management needs of institutional and high-net worth clients. The Dividend Growth Composite contains portfolios invested in Berkshire's Dividend Growth Strategy with an equity allocation target of 90% - 100%. The Dividend Growth Strategy's primary objective is to generate a growing stream of equity income by investing in a diversified portfolio of equities with stable, high, and growing dividends. The benchmark is the S&P 500 Index. The index returns are provided to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown. For comparison purposes, the index is fully invested, does not include any trading costs, management fees, or other costs, and the reinvestment of dividends and other distributions is assumed. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. Gross returns are presented before management and other fees but after all trading expenses. Net returns are calculated by deducting actual management fees from gross returns. Returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. Valuations are computed and performance is reported in U.S. dollars. To receive a complete list of composite descriptions and/or a compliant presentation, contact Jason Reilly, CFP® Tel: 570-825-2600 or info@berkshiream.com. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Definitions: The S & P 500 Index is a market capitalization weighted index of the largest 500 U.S. stocks. It is a market-value weighted index (stock price times # of shares outstanding), with each stock's weight in the index proportionate to its market value. The index is designed to measure changes in the economy and is representative of most major industries. Russell 1000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The index was developed with a base value of 200 as of August 31, 1992. Russell 1000 Value Index measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The index was developed with a base value of 200 as of August 31, 1992. You cannot invest directly in an index. BEst (Bloomberg Estimates) Earnings Per Share (EPS Adjusted) estimate returns Earnings Per Share from Continuing Operations, which may exclude the effects of one-time and extraordinary gains/losses. Beta is a measure of volatility vs. an index. Upside/Downside capture ratios refer to a portfolios performance as a percentage of either positive returns (upside) or negative returns (downside) vs. an index. Standard Deviation is a measure of total risk. Alpha, Beta and capture ratios are represented as calculated by Morningstar.

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